

and we may believe that the joy of life, which in some persons is so exhilarating, proceeds from keen sensibility as well as from strong aesthetic impulses. But the difference in attitudes, sensibility and physical traits between the members of a family are generally less than those between persons who belong to different families. A race, as we shall see, may be likened to a family, except in cases where interbreeding between different sections of it is artificially checked, and we may then expect to find such a general similarity between the members of a race as there is between members of a family. Traits of character cannot be discerned directly; they can only be inferred from behaviour, and in examining them we are confessedly upon ambiguous ground, especially when dealing with large bodies of mankind. But certain of them are unmistakably plain. Such are the low reasoning powers of savages, and the weakness of the impulse which leads to industry. Others, equally undeniable, may require closer observation or comparison to be detected. No one will dispute that amongst Mediterranean peoples, for instance, the aesthetic impulses are unusually strong.

There is a school of thought which is reluctant to admit that character is determined by race, since in this case it cannot be radically changed by education. But practical men of affairs, whose success depends upon knowledge of racial character,

ter—such as commercial travellers or
contractors
—will ridicule the idea that differences
in racial
disposition are only skin deep. When
races are
marked by peculiar bodily features, it
is only
reasonable to suppose that these
distinctions are
accompanied by peculiarities of
character. We
habitually recognize the association of
features
with character : thus we speak of a
determined